

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

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1. (Currently Amended) A method for storing memory card usage information on a memory card, comprising the steps of:

collecting information about usage of the memory card;

recording the information about usage in an area of the memory card; and

accessing the information about usage.
 2. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the [monitoring] collecting step comprises monitoring write events, read events and power-on events.
 3. (Original) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the collecting step comprises changing a count associated with an event descriptor when the event occurs.
 4. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim [1] 3, wherein the collecting step further comprises storing a value parameter associated with said event descriptor when the event occurs.
 5. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 3, wherein the collecting step comprises changing a [memory tally] running total associated with said event descriptor when the event occurs.
 6. (Original) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the recording step comprises recording the information about usage in a dedicated area in said memory card.
 7. (Original) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the recording step comprises recording the information about usage in a non-user accessible area of memory.
 8. (Original) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the collecting step comprises changing a count associated with an event description when the event occurs; and wherein the accessing step comprises displaying the count.
 9. (Original) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein there are a plurality of event descriptors; and wherein said accessing step comprises displaying a plurality of the event descriptors, wherein each of the displayed plurality of events descriptors is selectable, so that

on selection, additional usage information will be displayed that is associated with that selected event descriptor.

10. (Original) The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the displaying step is performed at a host.

11 (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the accessing step comprises displaying [substantially] real-time information about usage in a window on a screen at a host.

12. (Original) The method as defined in claim 1, further comprising the step of creating write and read commands allowing the host to store the information about usage and read that information.

13. (Original) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the collecting step comprises changing a count associated with an event descriptor when the event occurs; and further comprising the steps of comparing the count to a threshold, and if the threshold is equaled or exceeded, then causing a message to be sent.

14. (Currently Amended) A data structure in a memory card, comprising, computer readable storage containing [an] at least one event descriptor about the usage of the memory card, and for each event descriptor a count representing the number of occurrences of that event.

15. (Currently Amended) A data structure as defined in claim [13] 14, further comprising for each of a plurality of event descriptors an amount of memory used by ~~that~~ aggregation of an aggregation of events corresponding to respective each of the event descriptors.

16. (Currently Amended) A system for storing memory card usage information on a memory card, comprising:

- a component for collecting information about usage of the memory card;
- a component for recording the information about usage in an area of the memory card;
- and
- a component for accessing the information about usage.

17. (New) A method, comprising:

collecting information about usage activity of a portable memory card in an electronic device; and

recording the information about usage activity on the memory card itself.

18. (New) The method of claim 17 wherein collecting information further comprises counting physical insertions of the memory card into the electronic device.

19. (New) The method of claim 17 wherein collecting information further comprises counting a number of times data was corrected by the memory card.

20. (New) The method of claim 17 wherein collecting information further comprises counting a number of times an image file was written to the memory card.

21. (New) The method of claim 17 wherein collecting information further comprises counting a number of times music files were written to the memory card.

22. (New) The method of claim 17 wherein collecting information further comprises tracking a number of times the memory card is formatted.

23. (New) A method, comprising:

providing a portable memory card;

monitoring usage activities for the memory card;

storing the usage activities on the memory card; and

displaying the usage activity on the memory card.

24. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein displaying the usage activity further comprises displaying the usage activity on a window on the memory card.

25. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein displaying the usage activity further comprises displaying the usage activity on a screen on the memory card.

26. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein monitoring usage activity comprises monitoring an amount of memory used on the memory card and monitoring an amount of memory remaining free on the memory card.

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27. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein providing a portable memory card further comprises providing the portable memory card in a digital camera.
